

**ABSTRACT**

A valve pin actuating mechanism for an injection molding apparatus is provided. The injection molding apparatus includes at least one melt channel  
5 and a valve pin that is movable in the melt channel. The valve pin actuating mechanism includes an actuator, a linkage element and a stop. The linkage element has a mechanically upstream connector and a mechanically downstream connector. The linkage element is connected at least indirectly  
10 to the actuator at the mechanically upstream connector and is connected at least indirectly to the valve pin at the mechanically downstream connector. The linkage element is rotatable by actuation of the actuator. The stop is configured to engage a limit surface to limit the angle of rotation of the linkage element. The stop and the limit surface are configured to engage  
15 mechanically upstream from the downstream connector of the linkage element.